



# Education Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 56

### PART VI

#### SCHOOL ADMISSIONS, ATTENDANCE AND CHARGES

#### CHAPTER II

#### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

#### *School attendance orders*

- 441** **Choice of school: child with <sup>[F1]</sup>EHC plan <sup>[F2]</sup>or statement of special educational needs**].
- (1) Subsections (2) and (3) apply where a <sup>[F3]</sup>local authority<sup>[F4]</sup>in England are required by virtue of section 437(3) to serve a school attendance order in respect of a child for whom they maintain <sup>[F5]</sup>an EHC plan <sup>[F6]</sup>(in the case of a local authority in England) or] a statement under section 324 <sup>[F7]</sup>(in the case of a local authority in Wales)]].
  - (2) Where the <sup>[F8]</sup>EHC plan <sup>[F9]</sup>or statement] specifies the name of a school, that school shall be named in the order.
  - (3) Where the <sup>[F10]</sup>EHC plan <sup>[F11]</sup>or statement] does not specify the name of a school—
    - (a) the authority shall, <sup>F12</sup> . . . , amend the <sup>[F13]</sup>EHC plan <sup>[F14]</sup>or statement] so that it specifies the name of a school, and
    - (b) that school shall then be named in the order.
- <sup>[F15]</sup>(3A) <sup>[F16]</sup>An amendment to a statement required to be made under subsection (3)(a) shall be treated for the purposes of Schedule 27 as if it were an amendment proposed following a periodic review (within the meaning of that Schedule).]]
- <sup>[F17]</sup>(3B) An amendment to an EHC plan required to be made under subsection (3)(a) shall be treated as if it were an amendment made following a review under section 44 of the

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Children and Families Act 2014, and that section and regulations made under it apply accordingly.]

(4) Where—

- (a) a school attendance order is in force in respect of a child for whom the [<sup>F3</sup>local authority] maintain [<sup>F18</sup>an EHC plan ][<sup>F19</sup>or a statement under section 324], and
- (b) the name of the school specified in the [<sup>F20</sup>plan ][<sup>F21</sup>or statement] is changed, the [<sup>F3</sup>local authority] shall amend the order accordingly.

### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 441 title inserted (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 41(7)**; S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- F2** Words in s. 441 heading omitted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by virtue of Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(16)(f)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1243, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1244, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 3**); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, **art. 4**; S.I. 2022/894, **art. 3**; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F3** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities (Integration of Functions) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/1158), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with Sch. 2 para. 7(4)(5))
- F4** Words in s. 441(1) inserted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(16)(a)(i)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1243, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1244, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 3**); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, **art. 4**; S.I. 2022/894, **art. 3**; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F5** Words in s. 441(1) inserted (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 41(2)(a)**; S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- F6** Words in s. 441(1) omitted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by virtue of Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(16)(a)(ii)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1243, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1244, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 3**); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, **art. 4**; S.I. 2022/894, **art. 3**; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F7** Words in s. 441(1) inserted (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 41(2)(b)**; S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- F8** Words in s. 441(2) inserted (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 41(3)**; S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- F9** Words in s. 441(2) omitted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by virtue of Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act

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- 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(16)(b)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1243, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1244, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 3**); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, **art. 4**; S.I. 2022/894, **art. 3**; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F10** Words in s. 441(3) inserted (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 41(4)(a)**; S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- F11** Words in s. 441(3) omitted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by virtue of Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(16)(c)(i)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1243, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1244, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 3**); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, **art. 4**; S.I. 2022/894, **art. 3**; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F12** Words in s. 441(3)(a) repealed (1.1.2002 (E.) and 1.4.2002 (W.)) by 2001 c. 10, s. 42(1)(6), Sch. 8 para. 15(2), **Sch. 9** (with s. 43(13)); S.I. 2001/2217, art. 5, **Sch. Pt. II** (as amended by S.I. 2001/2614, **art. 4**); S.I. 2001/3992, art. 5, **Sch. Pt. II**
- F13** Words in s. 441(3) inserted (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 41(4)(b)**; S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- F14** Words in s. 441(3)(a) omitted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by virtue of Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(16)(c)(ii)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1243, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1244, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 3**); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, **art. 4**; S.I. 2022/894, **art. 3**; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F15** S. 441(3A) inserted (1.1.2002 (E.) and 1.4.2002 (W.)) by 2001 c. 10, s. 42(1), **Sch. 8 para. 15(3)** (with s. 43(13)); S.I. 2001/2217, art. 5, **Sch. Pt. II** (as amended by S.I. 2001/2614, **art. 4**); S.I. 2001/3992, art. 5, **Sch. Pt. II**
- F16** S. 441(3A) omitted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by virtue of Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(16)(d)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1243, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1244, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 3**); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, **art. 4**; S.I. 2022/894, **art. 3**; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F17** S. 441(3B) inserted (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 41(5)**; S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- F18** Words in s. 441(4)(a) inserted (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 41(6)(a)**; S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- F19** Words in s. 441(4)(a) omitted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by virtue of Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(16)(e)(i)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1243, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1244, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 3**); S.I.

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- 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, **art. 4**; S.I. 2022/894, **art. 3**; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F20** Words in s. 441(4)(b) inserted (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 41(6)(b)**; S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- F21** Words in s. 441(4)(b) omitted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by virtue of Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(16)(e)(ii)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1243, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 2**); S.I. 2021/1244, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, **art. 3**); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, **art. 3** (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, **art. 4**; S.I. 2022/894, **art. 3**; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, **art. 3** (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 13(2)(ba) substituted for s. 13(2)(aa)(b) by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(2\)](#)
- s. 15A(3A) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(3\)](#)
- s. 15B(3)(c) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(4\)](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2014/1012 art. 12\(1\)Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2014/863 Sch. 2 para. 4](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2014/865 Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2016/653 Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- s. 17A-17D inserted by [2009 c. 22 s. 45](#)
- s. 17B-17D applied by [2009 c. 22 s. 86\(8\)](#)
- s. 457(4)(i)-(iia) repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 457(4)(iii) words repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 508(4) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(7\)](#)
- s. 537AA inserted by [2008 c. 25 Sch. 1 para. 8](#)
- s. 548(7A)(7B) inserted by [2008 c. 25 Sch. 1 para. 9\(5\)](#)
- s. 578(1) words repealed by [2005 c. 18 Sch. 19 Pt. 1](#)